Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MC-02 ACDA-07 IO-13 IGA-02 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /080 W
----------161153Z 062090 /14
O 161131Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 606

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 0944

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR JO US
SUBJ: REVISED FY 78 SECURITY ASSISTANCE LEVELS FOR JORDAN

REF: STATE 034523

1. EMB UNDERSTANDS DEPTS REASONING IN REFTEL REGARDING CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURES TO REDUCE WORLD-WIDE GRANT MAP LEVELS. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE IT IS STILL ADVISABLE TO RETAIN $70 MILLION GRANT MAP REQUEST FOR JORDAN.

2. WE BELIEVE WE MUST OBTAIN FROM CONGRESS SOMEWHERE AROUND $70 MILLION LEVEL IN GRANT MAP FOR JORDAN, AS THE MINIMAL LEVEL ACCEPTABLE ON POLITICAL GROUNDS HERE. ALSO, IN OUR EXPERIENCE WE RECOGNIZE THAT THERE ARE USUALLY CUTS FROM CONGRESS ON ADMINISTRATION'S REQUESTS ON WORLD-WIDE MAP LEVELS AND THAT MAP RECIPIENTS ARE USUALLY REQUIRED TO SHARE THE CUTS. CONSEQUENTLY, WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT TO GO IN FOR HIGHER MAP FIGURE TO INSURE WE CAN POLITICALLY ABSORB CONGRESSIONAL CUTS.

3. WE ALSO BELIEVE JORDAN HAS TRADITIONALLY AND STILL ENJOYS A MORE FAVORED POSITION VIS-A-VIS
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CONGRESS THAN HAS BEEN THE CASE FOR MOST OTHER MAP RECIPIENTS. IN THE PAST, CONGRESS HAS AT TIMES EVEN DESIGNATED A SPECIFIC MAP LEVEL FOR JORDAN, TO INSURE THAT IT DID NOT FALL BELOW A SIGNIFICANT MAP LEVEL.

4. WHILE EMB APPRECIATES DEPT'S OFFER TO

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PLACE $15 MILLION SAVED FROM MAP INTO SSA, WE SEE
FOLLOWING DRAWBACK TO THAT APPROACH. AS MENTIONED
IN AMMAN 0819, ADDITIONAL SSA COULD ONLY BE USED
FOR BUDGET SUPPORT BECAUSE OF LIMITED GOJ ABILITY
TO EXECUTE MORE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, AND WOULD
THEREFORE UNDERMINE OUR STRATEGY OF GRADUALLY
REDUCING BUDGET SUPPORT. OTHER OPTION OF PLACING
THE $15 MILLION IN ADDITIONAL FMS CREDIT IS NOT
NOW REALLY DESIRABLE BECAUSE OF JORDAN'S DIFFICULTY IN FINDING
BACKER FOR EVEN FY 1976 AND FY 1977 FMS CREDIT
PROGRAM.

5. IF, FOR OVERRIDING REASONS, ADMINISTRATION
STILL BELIEVES IT MUST CUT JORDAN MAP PROGRAM,
WE WOULD OF COURSE WISH TO SWITCH ADDITIONAL
MONEY TO FMS CREDIT, DESPITE DRAWBACK MENTIONED IN
PARA 4 ABOVE.WE WOULD HOWEVER HOPE THAT DEPT
WOULD MAKE MAJOR EFFORT WITH CONGRESS TO OBTAIN
REQUESTED MAP LEVELS, INDICATING THAT JORDAN IS
ONLY ARAB CONFRONTATION STATE RECEIVING MILITARY
ASSISTANCE AND THAT ASSISTANCE IS NECESSARY TO
MAINTAIN MODERATE JORDANIAN REGIME'S STRENGTH
AGAINST RADICAL PRESSURES (INCLUDING FROM IRAQ
AND REJECTIONIST FRONT).
PICKERING

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Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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